

Message Text

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R 112330Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TREASURY

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 031345

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 11 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

USAF CHIEF OF STAFF TESTIFIED MONDAY BEFORE SASC THAT
NVA HAVE INSTALLED SO MANY AA WEAPONS IN SVN THAT VNAF
PILOTS AFRAID TO FLY OVER OWN TERRITORY. WITHOUT
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REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT, SOUTH VIETS "RELUCTANT TO EXPOSE
THEMSELVES" IN SOME AREAS THEY NORMALLY WOULD (UPI
NYDN, CHITRIB).

IN TET ADDRESS, THIEU SAYS MORE BLOODSHED AND HARD TIMES AHEAD; AGAIN RULES OUT COALITION GOVT WITH VC, AND PLEDGES TO FIGHT UNTIL ALL COMMUNIST FORCES DEFEATED (AP SUN, NYDN, CHITRIB; WP).

OVER 20 OPPOSITION DEPUTIES AND SENATORS STAGE 24-HR HUNGER STRIKE IN FRONT OF NATL ASSEMBLY BLDG, CHANT ANTI-THIEU SLOGANS AND BURN HIS PICTURE. DEMONSTRATION BEGAN AS PROTEST AGAINST GVN'S CLOSING OF OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS (AP SUN, CHITRIB; WP; CSM). ANOTHER ANTI-GVN DEMONSTRATION STAGED BY 27 BUDDHIST NUNS WHO GATHERED NEAR PRES PALACE AND SCUFFLED WITH POLICE

WHO EVENTUALLY HERDED THEM INTO VANS AND TOOK THEM AWAY (CSM; WP). NUNS CARRIED POSTERS THREATENING TO BURN SELVES IF REPRESSED; POLICE SEIZED CAN OF GASOLINE FROM THEM (WP).

NYT'S MARKHAM IN SAIGON DESCRIBES PROTESTS MONDAY BY OPPOSITION PARLIAMENTARIANS AND RELIGIOUS GROUP; NOTES GEN "BIG" MINH PUT IN RARE PUBLIC APPEARANCE AT DEMONSTRATION BEFORE NATL ASSEMBLY BLDG. DEPUTY READ DENUNCIATION OF THIEU THAT INCLUDED ACCUSATION HE ALLOWED PHUOC LONG FALL TO PRESSURE US FOR MORE MIL AID. MARKHAM MENTIONS THIEU TET TALK IN WHICH THREE GOALS FOR NEW YEAR OUTLINED: MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR FRONT LINE, MAXIMUM STABILIZATION OF REAR, AND INCREASED PRODUCTION. QUOTES THIEU ON SECOND GOAL OF NOT PERMITTING COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND AGENTS INFILTRATE RANKS TO PROMOTE "SOLUTIONS OF SURRENDER."

GVN COMMAND REPORTS VC MINE BLEW UP SAMPAN IN DELTA, KILLED 15. ONLY SMALL-SCALE ATTACKS REPORTED ELSEWHERE (AP SUN, CHITRIB; WP) EXCEPT AROUND DA NANG WHERE GVN TROOPS TRYING RETAKE HIGH GROUND, WITH 35 NVA AND FOUR ARVN REPORTED KIA (AP, SUN; WP).

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GKR MIL COMMAND REPORTS NINE ROCKETS HIT PP AIRPORT; GOVT POST WEST OF CITY REPULSED NIGHT ATTACK; AND FANK COUNTERATTACKED NORTH AND SE OF CAPITAL (AP, CHITRIB). SMALL-SCALE ATTACKS REPORTED OUTSIDE PP; FIELD REPORTS SAY GOVT FORCES PUSHING INSURGENTS BACK A LITTLE (AP, SUN; WP). MIL SOURCES SAY BIG OPERATION WILL BE LAUNCHED WITHIN THREE DAYS TO DRIVE REBELS FROM MEKONG BANKS (CSM).

NYT'S SCHANBERG IN PP NOTES EVERY YR MANY FOREIGNERS LEAVE CITY DURING COMMUNIST DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE; BUT THIS YR EXODUS STARTED EARLIER THAN USUAL, AT LEAST PARTLY BECAUSE OF POWER CUTS TO CONSERVE FUEL.

BELIEVES FOREIGNERS' DEPARTURE HAS ALMOST NO EFFECT ON KHMERS, WHO HAVE OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT. POINTS OUT DEPARTEES, AS USUAL, GOING ONLY FAR AS BANGKOK, VIENTIANE, OR SAIGON TO WAIT OUT EVENTS. IN PAST, THEY CAME BACK WHEN "EASY LIFE" POSSIBLE AGAIN, BUT NOW DIFFERENCES CONTRIBUTE TO PESSIMISM ABOUT GKR: CONGRESS APPEARS DETERMINED TO LIMIT US MIL AID AND MEKONG IS BLOCKADED. SCHANBERG SEES US OFFICIALS IN PP IN STICKY POSITION SINCE THEY HAVE TO MAKE SITUATION SOUND SERIOUS TO PRESSURE CONGRESS FOR MORE FUNDS, BUT NOT SO BAD AS TO FRIGHTEN PEOPLE INTO LEAVING. QUOTES

AMERICANS THAT MIL SITUATION NEAR HP DOES NOT JUSTIFY EVACUATION, BUT WITH MEKONG CUT, SUPPLIES LIKELY TO START GETTING SHORTER. IF QUICK EVACUATION BECOMES NECESSARY, US HAS EMERGENCY PLAN INVOLVING AIRLIFT THAT IS ASSUMED WILL INCLUDE MOST OF FOREIGN COMMUNITY AND PROBABLY KEY GKR FIGURES, AS WELL.

WP'S GREENWAY IN PP WRITES OF CHINESE NEW YEAR ADVENT WHICH DIFFERS FROM THE KHMER. TELLS OF HIS VISIT TO FAMOUS FORTUNE TELLER USED BY LON NOL TO ASK WHAT NEW YEAR WILL BRING. SOOTHSAYER PREDICTED NEW YEAR WILL BE BETTER THAN OLD AND BRING REDUCTION IN FIGHTING, AND NEGOTIATIONS. COMMENTS THAT NOT MANY BELIEVE CONTINUING WAR WILL BRING NEGOTIATIONS AND US EMBASSY IS ABOUT ONLY OTHER PLACE IN TOWN WHERE SUCH OPTIMISM CAN BE FOUND. STATES NO EVIDENCE EXISTS PP'S SOOTHSAYERS UNCLASSIFIED

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IN PAY OF FOREIGN POWER, NOR ARE SUCH PROPHECIES "DESTABILIZING" TO DEEP PESSIMISM THAT PREVAILS.

UPI NOTES ORGANIZERS OF LAST MONTH'S ANTIWAR PROTEST IN WASHINGTON "DUMBFOUNDED" BY NUMBERS THAT APPEARED. SEES IT AS IMPRESSIVE SHOW OF POLITICAL MUSCLE FOR MOVEMENT "MUCH DISMANTLED BY THE MEDIA." GIVES MUCH OF CREDIT TO TOM HAYDEN AND LARRY LEVIN; CALLS EFFORT "LOW-KEY AND...LOBBYING AT ITS BEST" (BALTO N-A 2/10).

2. JAPAN

AFP TOKYO (WP) CITES YOMIURI REPORT TAX OFFICIALS ORDER TANAKA TO FILE AMENDED RETURN BY MARCH 15, PAY ABOUT 500,000 DOLLARS IN BACK TAXES AND PENALTIES FOR CONCEALING TRUE INCOME OVER PAST THREE YEARS.

LAT'S JAMESON IN TOKYO (2/8) CITES EPA OFFICIAL THAT JAPAN TO KEEP TIGHT MONEY POLICY "FOR TIME BEING," TO STUDY EFFECT OF DIFFERENT INTEREST RATES IN US, FRG. SAYS OFFICIAL EXPLAINED "BEARISH" CONSUMERS' FEAR OF INFLATION CAUSED RECESSION IN

JAPAN BY CUTTING CONSUMPTION SHARPLY, BUT PRICE
STABILIZATION WILL INDUCE THEM TO RESUME SPENDING
WHEN INFLATION STOPPED.

JOC (TOKYO) NOTES EPA MONTHLY ASSESSMENT SHOWS
6.3 PERCENT DECLINE IN DEC EXPORTS OVER NOV;
CONFIRMATION OF DOWNTREND WHICH BEGAN IN OCT SEEN
IN 16.6 PERCENT DECLINE IN EXPORT LETTERS OF CREDIT
FOR JAN OVER DEC.

JOC'S CULLISON IN TOKYO SAYS "RATIONALIZATIONS"
DEFICIT-RIDDEN JAL WISHES TO DISCUSS WITH US CARRIERS
SERVING PACIFIC INCLUDE SHARED GROUND MAINTENANCE
AND REFUELING SALES COOPERATION, GENERAL AGENCY
CONTRACTS, POSSIBLY FARE POOLING. NOTES JAL PRES
HOPES TO HAVE US CARRIERS "ADJUST" NUMBER OF TRANS-
PACIFIC FLIGHTS FOR BENEFIT OF ALL, WHICH HE FEELS
WOULD NOT FACE ANTI-TRUST CHALLENGE BY USG UNDER
CIRCUMSTANCES. BUT ADDS INDUSTRY OBSERVERS IN TOKYO
FEEL US CARRIERS NOT INTERESTED, SINCE PACIFIC AMONG
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THEIR MORE PROFITABLE ROUTES.

KENJI KUWABARA COMMITTED SUICIDE IN TOKYO, APPARENTLY
TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS CATERING FIRM'S FOOD-
POISONING JAL PASSENGERS EN ROUTE TO COPENHAGEN
(WP, PHINQ - WITH PHOTO OF KUWABARA).

3. THAILAND

CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN BANGKOK INTERPRETS PUBLIC
STATEMENTS TO MEAN NEW RTG, LIKE PREDECESSOR,
LIKELY TO COOPERATE WITH US ON KEY AIR BASE ISSUE.
SAYS RE-ENTRY OF ABOUT 350 THAI-BASED US PLANES
INTO INDOCHINA WAR NOW SEEMS UNLIKELY BUT US
OFFICIALS BELIEVE THEIR PRESENCE DETERS NVN.
DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER SENI PRAMOJ, TRYING TO
FORM COALITION, ACKNOWLEDGES US PLANES "SNAG"
TALKS ON "PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE" RTG PROPOSED TO
DRV; BUT TOLD FOREIGN NEWSMEN FEW DAYS AGO: "WE
ASKED THE AMERICANS TO COME HERE, HOW CAN WE THEN
ALL OF SUDDEN TELL THEM 'YANKEE GO HOME'?"

NOTES SUBJECT APPARENTLY NOT RAISED IN JAN 22
MEETING OF THAI-US COORDINATING COMMITTEE. AFTER
MEETING GEN KRIANGSAK CHOMANAN RESTATED RTG POSITION
THAT FURTHER REDUCTION OF US PRESENCE DEPENDS ON
DETERIORATION OF SITUATION IN REGION, AND SAID
SUBJECT OF US WITHDRAWAL NOT EVEN RAISED BECAUSE,
IN HIS VIEW, SITUATION DETERIORATING IN BOTH CAMBODIA
AND SVN.

4. PHILIPPINES

MARCOS, IN TV SPEECH MONDAY TO TOURISM DELEGATES FROM 57 NATIONS, SAID GOP FORCES LIMITED TO SELF-DEFENSE AGAINST MOSLEM REBELS, AND "WE SHOULD WELCOME OUR BROTHERS, ALL THOSE WHO WANT TO RETURN... WHO ARE ENGAGED IN ANY MANNER OF ACTIVITY AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT." SOURCES SAID PHIL AF JETS BOMBED REBEL POSITIONS IN MINDANAO WHILE MARCOS SPEAKING (AP, NYDN).

5. AUSTRALIA

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JOC (LONDON) NOTES AUSSIE TRADE DELEGATION TO MOSCOW CLOSED 40,000-TON BEEF SALE, FOR DELIVERY MARCH-OCT THIS YEAR; DETAILS CONFIDENTIAL, BUT REPORTS SAY DEAL MAY BE WORTH 25 MILLION DOLS.

6. INDONESIA

CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN DENPASAR (2/11) FINDS BALINESE "INDESTRUCTABLY NICE PEOPLE" AND SURVIVING TOURIST INVASION WITH MORE "GRACE AND RESILIENCE" THAN PREDICTED.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

7. INDOCHINA

FORMER NSC MEMBER CHESTER COOPER IN WP DOES LENGTHY ARTICLE ON FATEFUL DAY TEN YEARS AGO WHEN VC STRUCK AIRFIELD IN PLEIKU, KILLED EIGHT AMERICANS AND PRECIPITATED MASSIVE US RETALIATION AND INTERVENTION.

SEN HATFIELD IN LAT (2/9) AND PHINQ ARGUES US CAN'T AFFORD TO SUPPORT THIEU SINCE AID ONLY PERPETUATES "BANKRUPT POLICY." STATES GVN CONTINUALLY PRACTICES DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS. SEES NO INTERNATIONAL LEGAL OBLIGATION TO SUPPORT THIEU. DENOUNCES IMAGE OF MASSIVE NVA BUILDUP AS MYTH. BELIEVES ADMIN REQUEST MAY BE EFFORT TO BLAME CONGRESS FOR FAILURE OF POLICY. CALLS INTERVENTION "MORAL AND DIPLOMATIC DISASTER FROM THE BEGINNING." ADVOCATES RESTRAINT OF AID TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WAR MUST BE BROUGHT TO END THROUGH POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION.

M. STANTON EVANS, CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION, IN LAT (2/9) STATES "POROUS" C-F MAKES CLEAR THAT SVN FACES BLATANT COMMUNIST AGGRESSION. ACCUSES THOSE WHO WISH TO CUT AID OF SAYING THAT WE SHOULD AVERT OUR GAZE AND LET INDOCHINA GO TO COMMUNISTS, WITH ALL THAT IMPLIES IN HUMAN SUFFERING AND STRATEGIC DAMAGE TO WEST. SAYS LOGICAL COURSE IS TO AVOID

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COMMITMENT OF US FORCES AND GIVE AID TO MOST VIABLE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP, MEANING THIEU TODAY. BELIEVES ONLY THING THAT COULD MAKE TRAGEDY WORSE WOULD BE TO WASH OUR HANDS OF AFFAIR. THIS WOULD TRANSMIT MESSAGE OF EXHAUSTION, AND WILL RESULT IN

LOSS OF FRIENDS WHICH AS COMMUNISTS ADVANCE WE WILL NEED.

LAT'S RESTON (2/9) SEES OLD ARGUMENTS ABOUT VN INVOLVEMENT FADING UNDER PUBLIC PRESSURE TO END US "NIGHTMARE" IN INDOCHINA, WITH NOTHING ILLUSTRATING THIS BETTER THAN MOOD IN CONGRESS. BELIEVES PRES AND SECSTATE ARE IN DEEP TROUBLE WITH REQUESTS FOR MORE FUNDS. PROBLEM IS THAT PRES AND SECSTATE DEFINE NEED FOR CONTINUING AID IN TOTALLY DIFFERENT WAY THAN CONGRESS DOES. ADMIN IS WARNING CONGRESS TO BEWARE OF POSSIBILITY OF POLITICAL BACKLASH TO NEGATIVE AID VOTE. BUT FEW MEMBERS BELIEVE THERE IS POLITICAL MILEAGE TO BE GAINED FROM ADVOCATING CONTINUING FLOW OF AID TO SVN.

MARIANNE MEANS (BOST H-A 2/6) SEES "NEGATIVE" POSSIBILITY FADING FOR SEN JACKSON SINCE KENNEDY HAS BEGUN TO SIGNAL THAT HE IS NO LONGER ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO CANDIDACY FOR PRES. MEANS ATTRIBUTES THIS LARGELY TO JACKSON'S CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD INDOCHINA WAR. LOFTON (PHINQ) FINDS "STUNNING REVERSAL" OF JACKSON'S VIEWS IN RECENT DECLARATION, THAT HE WILL OPPOSE SUPPLEMENTAL FOR VN. QUOTES EARLIER, HAWKISH STATEMENTS BY SENATOR. BELIEVES JACKSON OWES BOTH US AND VN PEOPLE FULLER EXPLANATION OF WHY HE HAS NOW JOINED "CUT AND RUN" CROWD.

IN LETTER TO NYT, O. EDMUND CLUBB FINDS PRES, IN RECENT STATEMENTS ADVOCATING EXTRA AID TO SVN, HAS "DULLES EVANGELISM SYNDROME" THAT TELLS THOSE SUFFERING UNDER COMMUNISM THAT THEY CAN COUNT ON US. RECALLS COMMITMENT TO CCS AND TREATY WITH TAIWAN. NOTES THAT WASHINGTON CANNOT ABROGATE TREATY TO ENABLE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH PRC BECAUSE OF FEAR OF DAMAGE TO

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CREDIBILITY.

EXILED LT GEN NGUYEN CHANH THI FROM WASHINGTON WRITES TO CDN (1/31) THAT INSTEAD OF LOOKING FOR WHAT WENT WRONG WITH C-F, US WANTS TO GIVE MORE MIL AID

TO "MAIN VIOLATOR" THIEU. SAYS US HAS MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE SVN PEOPLE CHANCE TO EXPRESS WILL, BUT FIRST THIEU MUST GO AND NEW ELECTIONS MUST BE ARRANGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH C-F. BELIEVES COMMUNISTS INSINCERE IN CALLING FOR THIEU OUSTER, SINCE IF HE GOES CHANGE WOULD BE WELCOMED AND LEAD TO HIGH MORALE THAT WOULD UNIFY S VIETS. STATES THAT NEW GOVT MAKING MOVES TOWARD RECONCILIATION AND PEACE WOULD ATTRACT MASSIVE SUPPORT AND UNDERMINE VC. SEES MORE US MIL

AID AS PROLONGING SUFFERING AND RESULTING IN INEVITABLE VICTORY FOR COMMUNISTS.

ANTHONY LEWIS (NYT 2/10) IN FIRST OF SERIES LABELLED "MR. KISSINGER'S WAR" ASKS WHY HAK IS DOING NOTHING TO STIMULATE POLITICAL SOLUTION IN VN. SAYS THIS STEMS FROM THIEU'S VIOLATION OF C-F AFTER PARIS SIGNING, DONE WITH AT LEAST TACIT US APPROVAL. NOW BATTLE TIDE SWINGS IN FAVOR OF NVN WHOSE AIMS STILL LIMITED. US AID REQUEST IS NEEDED ONLY FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL PURPOSE TO SHOW CONTINUED US SUPPORT. WHY DOES HAK CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THIEU IN BLOCKING POLITICAL SETTLEMENT? ANSWERS TO COME IN FUTURE COLUMN, AND EXIST "BEYOND VN."

JACK ANDERSON (WP 2/9) BASING ON CABLES ALLEGEDLY STOLEN FROM ELLSBERG BUT NOW IN HANDS OF HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE, SAYS JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION BELIEVED WAR WON IN 1967. THIS VIEW BASED ON DECEPTION BY US MILITARY USING HOKED UP DOCUMENTS AND PR CAMPAIGN. DOS IS QUOTED AS DOUBTING SAIGON VIEW. COMPROMISES AGREED TO WHICH WAS THAT TET OFFENSIVE COULD NEVER HAPPEN.

CDN (2/3) EDIT OPPOSES ADDITIONAL AID TO SVN. SAYS VIETS HAVE TO FIND OWN SOLUTION AND US NEED UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT APOLOGIZE BUT SHOULD DEVOTE ITS EFFORTS TO PROBLEMS IT HAS CHANCE OF SOLVING.

KILPATRICK IN CDN (2/6) SAYS CONGRESSIONAL RELUCTANCE ON SUPPLEMENTAL AID IS FAILURE OF WILL. ONLY MATERIAL NOT MEN REQUIRED. POINTS TO CONTINUED SVN WILL TO FIGHT. SAYS CAUSE OF FREEDOM SERIOUSLY ENDANGERED IF NO MORE AID FORTHCOMING.

MARY MCGRORY IN GLOBE (2/9) SAYS ROCKY BEWILDERED BY REACTION TO HIS VN COMMENTS. HOINTS TO HIS RELUCTANCE TO GET INVOLVED IN VN DEBATE DURING PAST 10 YEARS. SAYS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION PROPOSED BY FORD SHOULD MORE APPROPRIATELY LOOK INTO PRESS

FREEDOM IN SVN.

KINGSBURY SMITH IN BOST HERALD-AMERICAN (2/7) DISCUSSES THOMPSON'S BOOK "PEACE IS NOT AT HAND." SAYS NO AID WOULD BE DISASTER FOR FREE WORLD. EVENTUALLY COULD LEAD TO ABANDONMENT OF ISRAEL AND STRATEGIC SURRENDER TO COMMUNISM.

8. CHINA

NYT'S LELYVELD, IN HK, OBSERVES THAT FIRST POLITICAL PRONCEMENTS OF PRC'S REALIGNED "AND SUPPOSEDLY 'MODERATE' LEADERSHIP" ARE HEAVILY EMPHASIZING NEED FOR DISCIPLINE AND SOCIAL ORDER. BETWEEN LINES, THEY SEEM SAYING THERE WILL BE LESS ROOM FOR DISSIDENCE AND DEBATE IN CCP. POINTS OUT THAT NEW LEADERSHIP SEEMS TO PUT TWO FORMER ENEMIES, TENG AND CHANG, INTO SAME HARNESS. THEIR PRESENT RELATIONS ARE MATTER OF SPECULATION, BUT RECORD REVEALS SOME "CHOICE" CHANG REMARKS ABOUT TENG. REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER TENG-CHANG LINE IS IN OFFING.

UCLA'S PROF BAUM TAKES EXCEPTION TO SPECULATION IN US MEDIA THAT RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA PROVE MAO "HAS HAD IT." POINTS OUT THAT CHOU, "FOR ALL HIS OSTENSIBLE MODERATION AND PRAGMATISM, HAS ALWAYS BEEN INTENSELY LOYAL" TO CHAIRMAN; NOR IS THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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ANY EVIDENCE TENG HSIAO-PING'S RECENT "METEORIC RISE" OCCURED IN FACE OF MAO'S STRENOUS OPPOSITION.

AS TO NEW CONSTITUTION, BAUM SAYS MAO WAS CHIEF PROPONENT OF ABOLISHING POST OF CHAIRMAN OF REPUBLIC; STIPULATION OF WORKERS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO STRIKE MAY ACTUALLY REPRESENT VICTORY FOR AGING MAO, LONG ADVOCATE OF EXPANDED INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY. STIPULATION THAT PARTY CHAIRMAN SERVE AS PLA COMMANDER-IN CHIEF CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS NET GAIN FOR MAO. FINALLY, AT LAST COUNT THERE WERE NO FEWER THAN NINE ARDENT MAOISTS SITTING ON 23-MEMBER POLITBURO (FEB 9).

CSM'S POND, IN MOSCOW, CITES FEB 9 PRAVDA ARTICLE INDICATING SOVIET BELIEF TENG HSIAO-PING WILL NOT LAST LONG AS CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF. POND CAUTIONS THAT DIFFICULT TO KNOW JUST WHAT MIX OF KREMLIN'S REAL ANALYSIS, WISHFUL THINKING, AND PUBLIC PROPAGANDA REFLECTED IN SUCH ARTICLES.

TO SUN'S PARKS, IN MOSCOW, SINO-SOVIET IDEOLOGICAL BICKERING OVER "WHOSE COMMUNISM IS BETTER," STIMULATED BY NEW PEKING CONSTITUTION, IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN

MOST SINO-SOVIET QUARRELS OVER LAST 15 YEARS "BECAUSE IT GREATLY DIMINISHES PROSPECTS" FOR RECONCILIATION.

LAT'S ELEGANT, IN HK, REPORTS BUOYANT, OPTIMISTIC MOOD IS ABROAD IN PRC AFTER FOURTH NPC; THIS INFO DERIVED NOT FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES, BUT FROM SPONTANEOUS REACTION OF CHINESE IN MANY DIFFERENT PARTS OF COUNTRY AS DEMONSTRATED IN THEIR COMMUNICATIONS TO HK RELATIVES. CHINESE HIGHLY DEVELOPED ANTENNAE NOW TELLING THEM BETTER TIMES ARE AHEAD. MAINLANDERS ASKING FOR MONEY APPARENTLY BECAUSE THEY'VE SENSED BETTER TIMES AHEAD. PEKING-SPONSORED ORGANIZATIONS IN HK REFLECT NEW MOOD.

ELEGANT CITES, UNDER NEW ECONOMIC POLICY, SMALL HARBINGERS OF FREE ENTERPRISE IN CHINA. ADDS THAT EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS FACT NO MAJOR, DISRUPTIVE POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC "CAMPAIGN" IS NOW SWEEPING UNCLASSIFIED

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CHINA. NOTES PEOPLE IN KWANGTUNG PROVINCE SMALL TOWNS FOR FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS ARE ASKING PROSPECTIVE VISITORS BRING ALONG GAILY COLORED CLOTHING.

9. KOREA

UPI SEOUL (NYDN) SAYS OPPOSITION STEPS UP DRIVE TO BOYCOTT REFERENDUM WEDNESDAY, IN FACE OF STERN GOVT WARNINGS.

GLOBE'S STORIN IN SEOUL (2/11) AS HAVE OTHERS, DESCRIBES DONG-A ILBO SURVIVAL OF ROKG CAMPAIGN TO CUT AD INCOME; LOSSES MORE THAN MADE UP BY CASH PAYMENTS FOR SYMPATHY ADS. NOTES ROKG NOW ALLOWING PAPERS PRINT STATEMENTS BY KIM YOUNG SAM, KIM DAE JUNG, PERHAPS TO IMPROVE REFERENDUM IMAGE. BUT ADDS MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE PARK WOULD WIN FAIR ELECTION, WITH ALMOST TOTAL SUPPORT OF 45 PERCENT OF POPULATION IN RURAL CONSERVATIVE AREAS.

LAT'S JAMESON IN TOKYO (2/10) STATES NK, WHICH BOASTED CURRENT SIX-YEAR PLAN AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, NOW REHORTED IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENTS OF LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE. CITES JAPANESE TRADING FIRM OFFICIAL, RECENTLY IN PYONGYANG, THAT JAPAN HALTED STEEL EXPORTS TO NK IN JULY WHEN NK FAILED TO PAY OFF LETTERS OF CREDIT DISCOUNTED TO LEADING BANKS IN EUROPE. OPINES OIL CRISIS TOOK SEVERE TOLL IN NK. NOTES NK MAY HAVE DIVERTED IRON ORE, DESTINED FOR JAPAN, TO LHINA TO PAY FOR OIL; SPECULATES RESULTING 50 PERCENT SHORTFALL IN EXPORTS TO JAPAN COMPOUNDED

NK DEBT SERVICE PROBLEM. ALSO CITES "HIGH-POWERED"
GOJ SOURCE THAT EXIM BANK WOULD GIVE ONLY "SPARING"

AND "WELL-SPACED" APPROVAL TO "HOST" OF NK APPLICATIONS
FOR LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE, TO AVOID EXACERBATING
RELATIONS WITH JAPAN'S SECOND-BEST TRADING PARTNER,
ROK.

10. JAPAN
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SUN'S STORIN IN TOKYO (2/9) NOTES JAPAN ABOUT TO
BEGIN SEARCH FOR NEW GENERATION SUPERSONIC FIGHTER
TO REPLACE F-104, WHICH LIKELY TO SET PLANE MAKERS
"DROOLING." SOME AIR DEFENSE OFFICIALS ALREADY
IMPRESSED BY F-15 CAPABILITY, ESPECIALLY IN AIR-TO-
AIR COMBAT AGAINST MIG-25; BUT DOVES IN DIET SEEN
LEERY OF UNCONSTITUTIONAL OFFENSIVE CAPABILITY
IMPLICIT IN ITS LONG RANGE, AS WELL AS COST. SAYS
F-15 MAKER, MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS, REPRESENTED IN TOKYO
BY FORMER COMMANDER OF US FORCES, JAPAN, RETIRED
USAF LT GEN GORDON GRAHAM.

BUT SEES F-16, F-17 ALSO IN RUNNING; LATTER'S
SELECTION WOULD ENHANCE COMPATIBILITY OF FORCES
SOUGHT BY US, SINCE USAF HAS ALREADY PICKED F-17
AS ITS "LIGHTWEIGHT" FIGHTER. ANOTHER FACTOR IN
CHOICE IS GOJ WISH TO ASSEMBLE PLANE IN JAPAN TO
BENEFIT ECONOMY, ACQUIRE TECHNOLOGY. ASDF TEAMS
TO STUDY CHOICES AVAILABLE IN US AND EUROPE THIS
SUMMER, RECOMMEND CHOICE OF NEW FIGHTER IN 1976,
FOR DEPLOYMENT IN 1979. HOWEVER, ACCORDING STORIN,
EXPENSIVE AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AT TIME MIKI STRESSING
HIGH PRIORITY OF SOCIAL INVESTMENT, COULD REKINDLE
KIND OF BASIC ARGUMENT ABOUT DEFENSE WHICH MARKED
EARLY 1960S.

NYT SPECIAL (TOKYO) SAYS MIYAZAWA STATEMENT IN DIET
MONDAY AGAIN BACKS GOJ AWAY FROM NHT RATIFICATION,
REVERSES EARLIER MIKI PLEDGE TO RATIFY THIS SESSION
OF DIET. FM SAID MORE TIME NEEDED TO STUDY TREATY,
AND PROPOSED NUCLEAR INSPECTION AGREEMENT WITH IAEA.
NOTES LDP FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SECURITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
OPPOSED NPT OVER WEEKEND, ON GROUNDS FRANCE, CHINA
HAVE NOT SIGNED. SAYS US, OTHER NATIONS EXERTING "QUIET
PRESSURE" ON GOJ TO RATIFY SINCE INDIAN TEST.

RECALLS GOJ INSISTENCE ON THREE CONDITIONS FOR RATI-
FICATION, SINCE SIGNING NPT 1970: PROGRESS TOWARD
DISARMAMENT BY NUCLEAR POWERS, NUCLEAR POWERS'
GUARANTEE OF NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS' SECURITY, AND NO
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BAR TO JAPAN'S DEVELOPMENT OF PEACEFUL USE. OBSERVES

JAPAN SEES PROGRESS ONLY ON THIRD CONDITION, WITH
NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA MOVING TOWARD IAEA AGREEMENT
TO INSPECT JAPAN UNDER SAME STANDARDS APPLIED TO
OTHER COUNTRIES. BUT ADDS MANY JAPANESE, LEFT AND
RIGHT, CONSIDER NPT "UNEQUAL TREATY," AND GOJ DOES
NOT CONCEAL DESIRE TO BECOME UNSEC PERMANENT MEMBER,
TO GAIN EQUAL STANDING WITH FIVE PERMANENT MEMBER
NUCLEAR POWERS, AND SHARE VETO WITH THEM.
INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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Drafter: EA/P:STAFF:PP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750050-0872
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750287/baaaagqj.tel
Line Count: 559
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 11
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 APR 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
MOSCOW
TREASURY
BIEN HOA
CAN THO
DANANG

HONG KONG
NHA TRANG
JEC PARIS INFO USSAGE NKP
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COGARD
BUDAPEST BY POUCH
XMT SUVA
RANGOON

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006